

IN THE CLAIMS

We Claim:

- 5 1. A method for a requester to gain access to a desired location requiring the permission of an authority, comprising the steps of:
providing a host to receive a request for access from said requester and to transmit said request to said authority;
said host receiving a response from said authority; and
10 dependent on said response, said host either providing said requester with access to said desired location or denying said requester access to said desired location.
- 15 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said host is a computer server interconnected to said requester and to said authority.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein said desired location is a data base accessible by a uniform resource listing (URL).
- 20 4. The method of claim 3 wherein said host is interconnected to said requester and to said authority by an integrated network of computers.
5. The method of claim 4 wherein said integrated network of computers is an Internet.
- 25 6. The method of claim 4 wherein said access is in the form of a password.
7. The method of claim 4 wherein said access is in the form of a URL portal to said desired location.
- 30 8. The method of claim 4 wherein said requester is a child under the age of 18 and said authority is a parent or legal guardian of said child.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein said child is under the age of 13.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein said host further provides said authority with a list
5 of desired locations accessed by said requester.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein said authority has the capability via said host of
denying said requester with further access to one or more of said desired locations on said
list of desired locations.

12. The method of claim 8 wherein responsive to said request for access, said host
obtains said requester's age and if said age is less than 13, said host obtains an identity of
said authority from said requester and then notifies said authority of said request for
access, wherein responsive to a response from said authority, said host either grants or
15 denies said requester said desired access.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein said step of notifying said authority includes one
or more of a name of said desired location, information collected about said requester by
said desired location, a privacy statement of said desired location, whether information
20 collected by said desired location is shared with others and credit card validation
information.

14. A method for a host to provide known data about an entity to a third party
pursuant to said entity's authorization, comprising the steps of:

25 providing a means for said third party to recognize said entity as a member of a
service of said host;

responsive to said recognition, said host receiving a request from said third party
for specific information about said entity;

said host surveying at least one data repository for said specific information about said
30 entity;

said host displaying said specific information about said entity to said entity and requesting authorization from said entity to provide at least a portion of said specific information to said third party; and

responsive to an opting in of said entity, said host providing at least a portion of
5 said specific information to said third party.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein said host, said entity and said third party are interconnected via an integrated network of computers.

10 16. The method of claim 15 wherein said third party is provided with an indication that said entity is a member of said service of said host via digitally transmitted data.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein said digitally transmitted data is a cookie embedded with in said entity's computer's memory.

15 18. The method of claim 16 wherein said specific information is located on a plurality on non-related data bases.

19. The method of claim 18 wherein not one of said non-related data bases contains
20 all of said specific information.

20. The method of claim 18 wherein said host further classifies said specific information into a plurality of categories and said entity may opt to provide information classified within one or more of said plurality of categories.

25 21. The method of claim 20 wherein said categories are selected from the group including permission and privacy information, contact information, descriptive information, preference information and account information.

30 22. The method of claim 21 wherein said host further provides services selected from the group consisting of managing and editing permission levels, tracks subscriptions to

email letters and notifications, enters and edits personal profile information and client or business information, records and up-dates delivery information and controls and monitors email and access provided to children.

5 23. The method of claim 14 wherein said third party conforms to conditions of said host prior to being granted access to any of said specific information.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein said conditions of said host include responsible use of personal information.

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25. The method of claim 2 wherein said desired location is a meta-directory containing at least two data sets originating from two or more providers of said at least two data sets.

15 26. The method of claim 25 wherein said data sets are lists of employee information.

27. The method of claim 26 wherein said meta-directory is accessible only with permission of said providers.

20 28. A method for a creating a meta-directory containing at least two data sets originating from two or more providers of said at least two data sets, comprising the steps of:

providing a host to receive said at least two sets of data;

25 said host receiving at least a first of said data set from a first authority and at least a second data set from a second authority;

responsive to said reception of said first and second data sets, said host compiling a matrix that is a first subset of said meta-directory;

said host receiving a request for access to said matrix from a requester; and

30 said host determining first if said requester is authorized by each of said authorities to access said matrix and second, allowing access only if said requester is authorized by each of said authorities.

29. The method of claim 27 wherein if said requester is not authorized by each of said authorities, said host transmits a request for authorization to each of said authorities.

5 30. The method of claim 28 wherein if any of said authorities denies authorization, said requester is denied access to said matrix.

31. The method of claim 29 wherein a second subset of said meta-directory is the communications between individuals using said meta-directory.